

5-23-2000

University of Dayton Summer Lecture Series to Examine Hope, Apocalypticism After 20th Century

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Recommended Citation

"University of Dayton Summer Lecture Series to Examine Hope, Apocalypticism After 20th Century" (2000). *News Releases*. 9055.
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7JAC(i) c-1



May 23, 2000
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NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON SUMMER LECTURE SERIES TO EXAMINE HOPE, APOCALYPTICISM AFTER 20TH CENTURY

DAYTON, Ohio — U.S. Roman Catholic apocalypticism and hope in the new millennium will be explored in the University of Dayton summer lecture series sponsored by the religious studies department. All lectures in the series, which is offered in collaboration with the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives, will be presented from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Sears Recital Hall in the Jesse Philips Humanities Center.

Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call UD's religious studies department at (937) 229-4321.

"In Search of Hope After the 20th Century," Wednesday, June 28. Lecturer is the Rev. Dermot Lane, S.T.D., author of *Keeping Hope Alive: Stirrings in Christian Theology*. Lane, president of Mater Dei Institute of Education in Dublin, Ireland, will discuss ways in which to resurrect hope and the essential role of memory and the necessity of a new imagination for reshaping hope in the 21st century.

"Great Balls of Fire: Roman Catholic Apocalypticism in the United States," Wednesday, July 12. Lecturer is Michael Cuneo, a professor of sociology and anthropology at Fordham University. He is author of *The Smoke of Satan: Conservative and Traditionalist Dissent in Contemporary American Catholicism* and *Battling the Demonic: Exorcism in Contemporary America*. Cuneo will discuss apocalyptic fantasies, also called doomsday prophecies, among Catholics who feel "deeply aggrieved by the enormous changes that have befallen both their church and the wider society" during the past 30 years.

"Why the End Hasn't Come Yet: Apocalypse as Message of Hope," Wednesday, July 26. Lecturer is Sister Carolyn Osiek, R.S.C.J., a professor of new testament studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and author of *The Shepherd of Hermas* and *What are they saying about the Social Setting of the New Testament*. Osiek will discuss how the Book of Revelation and its apocalyptic worldview integrate into a healthy contemporary spirituality.

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